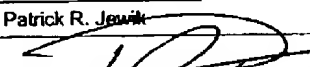


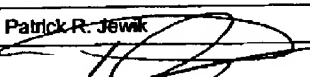
PTO/SB/30 (09-03)

Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal Address to: Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	Application Number	09/548,946
	Filing Date	April 13, 2000
	First Named Inventor	Estacio, Maria Cristina B.
	Art Unit	2811
	Examiner Name	N. Parekh
	Attorney Docket Number	018865-004500US

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.
 Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).
- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
 - i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - ii. ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☒ Enclosed
 - i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
 - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)
 - iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. ☐ Other _____
2. **Miscellaneous**
- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
 - b. ☐ Other _____
3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 20-1430
 - i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
 - ii. ☐ Extension of time fee. (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
 - c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)
- WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization of PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Name (Print /Type)	Patrick R. Jewell	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	40,456
Signature		Date	September 7, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (703) 872-9308 on September 7, 2004			
Name (Print /Type)	Patrick R. Jewell	Date	September 7, 2004
Signature			

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